

# RURAL FRINGE

*Journal of the Hall district*



VOLUME 17 ISSUE 1

April 2010

## SKYDIVE!!

On the 21 February, two young ladies from Hall, Sally Corrigan and Vanessa Pirotta, were converted from whuffos\* to skydivers when they did tandem skydives over Deakin Oval.

Both girls jumped from 10,000 feet with tandem master Graeme Windsor of Aerial Skydiving and achieved acceleration of nought to 200 kilometres per hour in 11 seconds. Try that in your hot rod or in your Mustang, A!!!

They landed softly with the grins of Cheshire cats and were quoted as saying: - "I want to do that again!"

As a special treat, Graeme flew Vanessa over the Canberra Zoo where she works so she could see the giraffes from above, for once! Also an aerial view of Hall as the aircraft climbed to jump height was enjoyed by Vanessa & Sally. You may have noticed the droning aircraft over Hall on weekends. They are "jump ships".

If you want to convert from whuffo to skydiver contact Graeme Windsor on 6285 1453.

If you want to know what it's like to freefall ask Sally, Vanessa, Andrew McD, or Pedro C (all residents of Victoria Street), who will tell you it's the experience of a lifetime, not only the thrill and

the adrenalin rush, but you get a beaut certificate to prove you're not a whuffo. Ask any skydiver what "whuffo" means and you'll have to convert out of embarrassment.

An old saying goes "Skydivers have more fun than people". We can second that!

Are there any other Hall Village folk out there that are not whuffos??

SKYDIVE!!!

—Peter Corrigan

*\*whuff-o (noun) Somebody who is not a Skydiver. A term used by Skydivers for people that do not jump, usually derogatory in a fun sense. See [www.whuffo.net](http://www.whuffo.net) for the full story.*



### Inside this issue...

- Hall Preschool
- Hall Lane Names
- Sheep Dog Trials
- Bob Tingey's 70th birthday
- Hall Pavillion refurbishment
- Hall Pony Club
- Wattle Park Church
- Wallaroo Fire Brigade



Vanessa Pirotta (left) & friend show their newly acquired skydive certificates



L to R Safely back on the ground... Graeme Windsor (Aerial Skydiving), Sally Corrigan, (wearing her father's jumpsuit) her father, Peter and brother, Ross

## Hot Gardens

Not so long ago our gardens consisted of lots of plants, a lawn and a little paving or concrete. Plants and turf keep our houses and surrounds cool. The modern look of outdoor rooms with lots of concrete, paving and rock has taken over in landscape design. Hard surfaces increase the temperature around our house, are worse for the environment and shocking for our health.

Research has shown that being surrounded by plants and turf is good for you and people with health issues are often told to spend more time in nature. Planted areas can be as much as 20°C cooler than hard surfaces. Plant material around a house means a cooler house and less air-conditioning.

I have not liked the idea of artificial turf ever, even in recent times with water restrictions, who on earth likes plastic in their garden; soon there will be plastic flowers, yuk. Artificial turf is often hotter than concrete so this serves no purpose in cooling either. Research shows that lawn in summer is 10°C cooler than soil and 20°C cooler than asphalt, concrete or pebbles and a whopping 40°C cooler than artificial turf. Artificial turf is not environmentally friendly, apart from the production which is a whole other story it is creating a hot space not a landscape.

Apart from the obvious aesthetics, a real landscape has lots of plants, they lock up carbon and produce oxygen, unlike

concrete that takes heaps of carbon to produce and once installed is hot, repels water and creates serious run-off issues.

Plants soften the hard scapes of your house, quieten down the surrounds, increase wildlife and birds, are good for your health and increase the value of your home. Concrete, pavers and other hard surfaces are used to reduce maintenance and water; this seems counter-productive when all the positives greatly out way the negatives.

Road sides all over Australia have plants and turf that manages to stay alive with very little maintenance, why can't home owners do the same. There are a whole range of new designer native grasses on the market and as long as you know there cultural needs can look amazing when designed cleverly.

When next designing your garden consider less concrete, paving or pebbles and use some of the tough, tried and true low maintenance plants instead, don't forget to mulch, to reduce weeds and hold in moisture. If you use mostly low water needs plants you can still have a small veg patch and some flowering plants and not feel guilty about water consumption.

Enjoy your outdoor space, breathe easier, feel better, grow more plants and have less concrete.

—Lisa Kaveney

## Like a Duck to Water



As mentioned in an article in the Canberra Times last September, a reader rang in to congratulate the driver of a Hewatt Earthworks ute. Who is this mystery driver? Geoff, you should be proud to have a decent and compassionate worker.

It seems a mother duck, on a median strip on Belconnen Way during peak hour, was in a flap as she struggled to navigate a safe path for her eight ducklings across the busy road. The Hewatt Earthworks driver stopped his ute, put on his hazard lights and personally ushered the fuzzy family across the road and into the dam. Besides his compassion, I think a lot of his work skills automatically kicked in.

The reader who rang in said of the mystery driver's good turn, "it was a brave and decent thing to do."

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*Don't forget to check out the Hall Village website...*

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## Birds of Canberra Gardens

Nearly 230 bird species have been recorded in and around Canberra suburban gardens over the past 27 years in the Canberra Ornithologists Group's Garden Bird Survey.

The life and times of most of these birds are described in this book, illustrated with brilliant colour photographs and abundance graphs.

Birds of Canberra Gardens describes the abundance and distribution of birds, and discusses how they are likely to be found at different times throughout the year, and in different places. The



book also provides some ideas on how your garden may be made more attractive to native birds.

Birds of Canberra Gardens is an excellent introduction to the birds of Canberra. It demonstrates graphically the delights of nature that are available to us here in Canberra, as long as we open our eyes and our ears.

The book is for sale from COG (through Martin Butterfield [martinflab@mail.com](mailto:martinflab@mail.com)) for \$25.00.

# Hall Lanes

After detailed research and consideration, the Hall Lanes committee (Shaun O'Connor, Bob Richardson, Julie & Greg Welsh, Margaret & Tony Morris) of the Progress Association devised the following names that are supported by the ACT Place Names Committee who have recommended to Minister Barr they be adopted:

## Lane 1—Cricketer's Lane

bounded by Loftus, Hall, Gladstone & Palmer Streets

Close proximity to the Showground and Sportsground.

Since the settlement of the village this area was the centre for cricket & other sports.

The cricket pitch was put down opposite the hotel in about 1876 and referred to as the One Tree Hill ground, with the first match being played on 9 November 1878.

The hotel nearby, built in 1864, previously known as One Tree Inn, became known as "The Cricketers Arms Hotel".

In 1890 Hall Cricket Club had a membership of 50. Social cricket was played with teams visiting from throughout the district.

Hall defeated the well established Ginninderra team on Boxing Day 1907.

The 1911 local school boys team, coached by Mr Sam Shumack, was never defeated in a match against strong representative teams.

In 1922 an "ant bed" wicket was put down in the Hall Sports Ground then replaced by a concrete wicket in 1928 when competitive matches commenced.

A Hall ladies' cricket was formed in early 1930's.

In the 1930's the men's team was superior in the district with some Hall players chosen to represent Canberra in Country Week competition.

Other sports played on these grounds were tennis, football, hockey and steel quoits, all with competition teams.

The Hall Cricket Club was revived in the 1980's. Funds were raised by Brian O'Connor and others through an annual Talent Quest held in the pavilion to entertain the community.

Cricketers Lane represents all the sporting and social activities of the Hall community, past and present.

## Lane 2—One Tree Lane

bounded by Hoskins, Hall, Loftus & Palmer Streets

One Tree Hill is the highest point in the range to the north east of Hall.

A landmark in the early days of village settlement and used as the local address.

Horse races were held on the One-Tree Hill course between the 1860's to 1880's, conducted by the One Tree Hill Jockey Club; then the One Tree Hill Race Club was formed in 1900.



The 'name the lanes committee' carries out research as they prepare the preferred list of names, which will go to the progress association and then to ACT Roads for implementation.  
photo: Bob Richardson

Wallaby drives were held in the area in the 1880's and 1890's as they were a problem to landholders. Patrick Cavanagh owned the surrounding property at this time.

From 1886 ploughing matches were held on ground opposite the hotel referred to as One Tree Hill ground.

In the preparation of the Village of Hall Master Plan, May 2002, the community were united in seeking and securing a one kilometre buffer zone of natural vegetation to be preserved surrounding the village. It was felt that a substantial environmental border would be the best security for the village to retain its individuality and to prevent it becoming just another ACT suburb in the future.

A walking track through bushland surrounding the village was built in 2002 for the community enjoyment of the wildflowers, trees, open grassland, kangaroos, echidna and views of the country, including Bald (Baldy) Hill and One tree Hill.

Local residents value highly our environmental inheritance and through Landcare Projects, widespread tree planting and care of the reserves within the village, prove their commitment to preserving and enhancing the natural, unspoiled areas.

One Tree Lane represents our environmental heritage and our determination to preserve our natural flora and fauna.

## Lane 3—Schoolhouse Lane

bounded by Palmer, Hoskins, Hall, & Victoria Streets

For generations this lane provided safe access to the Primary School.

Children used the lane to walk or ride horses to the original school, opened in 1911, with continued access to the school and later the pre-school for almost 100 years.

Before the road by-pass, the Barton Highway followed Victoria Street and the huge amount of traffic along it made the lane a safe route to the school and the connecting buses into Canberra.

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## Hall Lanes (continued from page 4)

Hall has provided quality education to the district's children for almost a century.

Schoolhouse Lane represents the importance of education in a community and the school as a focal point for friendship and social interaction.

### Lane 4 —Chaffcutter's Lane

bounded by Victoria, Hoskins, and Alexandra Streets

A local tragedy was the accidental death of 24 year old Ernie Gribble when he slipped between the engine travelling wheel and the flywheel of the family chaff cutting plant. The lower part of his body was crushed. When he could be released he was carried to "Cooee", the home of his sister nearby in Victoria Street, which adjoins this lane. Ernie, a fine, well respected young man, died soon after.

As horses were used last century as a means of transport and to pull farming machinery, the chaff cutting plant was an important service, travelling to properties in the district to cut horse food.

The village is named after the first landowner in the district, Henry Hall who obtained a grant of land in 1833. His property, "Charnwood" was in the present suburb of Fraser. He was a magistrate of the Queanbeyan district. Henry and his wife Mary had 4 daughters and 6 sons. Of them it was said "A more hospitable couple never lived". ("Memories of Hall by Leon Smith, page 1.)

This district has always been productive farming land, especially growing some of the finest merino wool in the country.

The village businesses still rely on the patronage of the landowners and hobby farmers in the surrounding district.

Chaffcutters Lane recognises the fine farming and grazing traditions since settlement and into the future.

### Lane 5—Saddler's Lane

bounded by Loftus, Alexandra, Gladstone and Gibbes Streets

William Aubrey McClung married Sarah Webb in 1906 and resided at "Glen Lee" adjoining this lane.

In 1904 Aubrey took over the saddler's shop from Henry Stear who had built it in 1900 and conducted his business as a saddler in Victoria Street until November 1940. In "Memories of Hall by Leon Smith, page 12 it states "He was held in high esteem for his honesty, friendship and good citizenship". The Hall Progress Association commenced in 1906 with Mr McClung and G. K. Kinlyside as joint Secretaries.

With the dependence on horses, the skill of a good saddler was much in demand.

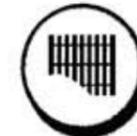
Saddlers Lane represents all the skilled craftsmen over the years on whom the residents rely. They took great pride in their expert workmanship and we acknowledge many of these outstanding trades are sadly now in decline.

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# Camel couple embrace isolation

Story courtesy of The Canberra Times

IF YOU saw a couple leading four camels through Canberra last December, you were not hallucinating.

Robert and Bernadette Sutton and their camels have spent five months travelling south from Gympie, Queensland, on the Australian Bicentennial National Trail.

All going well, they'll eventually finish up at Healesville, Victoria, having clocked up 5330km.

Mr Sutton said, "Bernadette rides the lead camel, the others carry gear, and I walk."

Sorry, walk?

"I dunno. I just wanted to see if I could do it," he said in his laconic country drawl.

Mr and Mrs Sutton are in their late 40s. He does a bit of everything, she works in aged care, and with their children having recently left home they decided they just wanted to "have a look around".

The four camels on the trip were caught in the wild ("they're the best ones") in South Australia.

The longest stretch the couple has done between towns is four weeks. Travelling can test the most solid relationships,



but Mr Sutton said they were "doing pretty good". And that's despite meeting only three other people on the trail, in the whole time.

The picture above shows Robert and Bernadette Sutton with camels Blackjack, Teewah, Dodge and Woolfe, at the Hall Showground.

—David Curry

# Wallaroo Fire Brigade

by Rowena Harvey and Kathleen Harvey

At a general meeting of the Wallaroo Fire Brigade last year, an election was held for field officers and committee members of Wallaroo Brigade. The result was as follows...

## Field Officers

Captain - Darren Marks  
 Senior Deputy Captain - Neil Shephard  
 Deputy Captains - Andrew Price, Peter Vincent and Allan Horsman.

## Committee members

President - Rod Roberts  
 Secretary - Allen Mawer  
 Treasurer - Mike Textor  
 Training Officer - Allan Horsman  
 Equipment Officer - Ross Callear  
 Community Safety Officer - Rowena Harvey

The statutory fire season for the Yass area commenced on 1 October, 2009. Permits are required if land holders wish to undertake any type of hazard reduction burn. If you would like further information on this you can contact the Brigade Captain Darren Marks, on 0409 070 056.

During a total fire ban of TOBAN, no fires are permitted in the open. This includes both incinerations and solid fuel BBQs. Any permits that have previously been issued will no longer be valid for the duration of the TOBAN.

When we are in the fire season, it is advisable that all households be prepared. This preparation should include:

preparing your property by cleaning gutters, clearing an area around all buildings including sheds and making sure pumps and hoses are in good order.

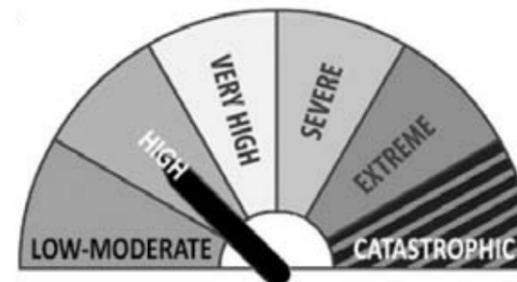
Know how to make 000 calls (this can be found at [http://www.rfs.nsw.gov.au/dsp\\_more\\_info\\_latest.cfm?CON\\_ID=5811](http://www.rfs.nsw.gov.au/dsp_more_info_latest.cfm?CON_ID=5811))

Have a plan in place for the household making sure that everybody knows what to do if there is an incident.

Further information on the above can be found at:

[http://www.rfs.nsw.gov.au/dsp\\_content.cfm?cat\\_id=1001](http://www.rfs.nsw.gov.au/dsp_content.cfm?cat_id=1001) or [http://www.rfs.nsw.gov.au/file\\_system/attachments/State08/Attachment\\_20070301\\_0A17f845.pdf](http://www.rfs.nsw.gov.au/file_system/attachments/State08/Attachment_20070301_0A17f845.pdf)

If you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact the Brigade Captain, Darren Marks on 0409 070 056.



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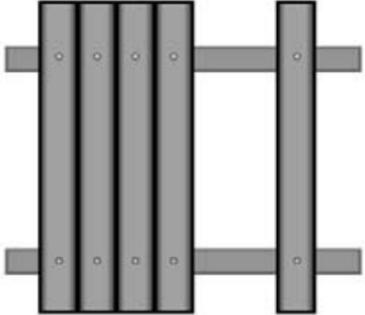
**An oldie but a goodie...**  
 Q. A fireman had two sons. What did he name them?  
 A. Hosea and Hoseb

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# Hall Preschool

"At Hall Preschool we started the year with 14 children, 9 preschoolers and 5 children, in our 3 year old program. It is great to see such a large percentage of children from Hall accessing their local preschool.

Welcome to:

- **Nicholas Agnew**
- **Dakoda Chaplin**
- **Indigo Flores**
- **Noah Goodchild**
- **Ryley Goodchild**
- **Sam Hackett**
- **Lahni Hall**
- **Ellie Maglasis**
- **Atticus Mansfield**
- **Toby Palethorpe**
- **William Parker**
- **Jacob Reid**
- **Hayley Shea**
- **Ruby Sheargold**



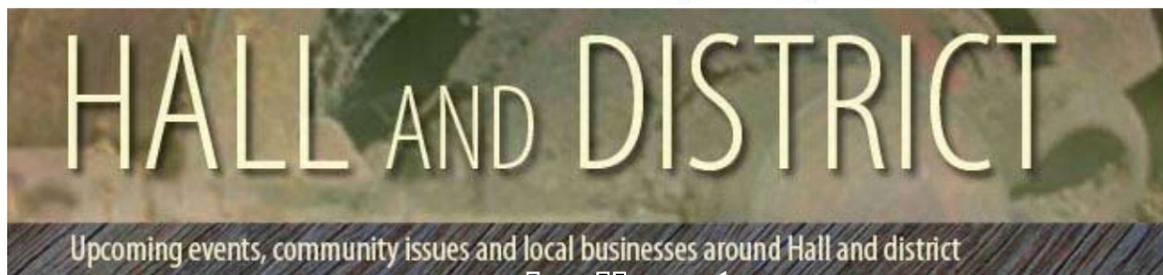
We have had a great start to the year and have been busy getting to know each other and our environment. We also submitted several entries for the art competition at the National Sheepdog Trials.

If anyone has any community events that would be appropriate for us to participate in, please contact us at the preschool. 6205 6526.

Lisa Ryan  
Preschool Teacher  
Hall Preschool



At the P&C meeting on Sunday 21 March:  
Seated from the left are Jennifer Lewis, Karen Johnstone, Maryann Harris and Penny Haisman.  
Standing are Anita Kilby, Bob Richardson and Helen White.



[www.hall.act.au](http://www.hall.act.au)

# Remember the rain?...



"Row, row, row your boat gently up the stream. Life is but a dream."  
Some photos from Bob Richardson. It is the historic bridge in Hall with Helen White on the bridge reminding us all that it does rain sometimes in Hall! Let's all cross our fingers for more.



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# Rotary News

## Guest Speaker – Arthur Heather on Marine Safety and Rescue

Arthur Heather is a senior Safety and Rescue Officer with the Australian Maritime Safety Authority (AMSA). AMSA is responsible for all aspects of safety and rescue for the Australian Zone which represents one tenth of the global area. AMSA is largely self-funded with the charter of enhancing efficiency in the delivery of safety and other services to the Australian maritime industry. It is funded by levies on shipping, by charging fees on a cost recovery basis for services provided. It also receives Community Service Obligation funding from the Commonwealth Government specifically relating to aviation and maritime search and rescue operations and boating safety education.



## The Western Flicks

Much accolades must go to two of our members **Ken Spencer** and **Dennis Greenwood** for all the amazing hard work they both did above and beyond the call of duty, to produce a film trailer for the community of West Wyalong which is about 300km or 4 hours drive from Canberra. It was called *The Western Flicks* and this is a little about it...

- Tandem, fully enclosed trailer with forward mounted storage container
- Movie screen 2800 x 1800
- Data projector, amplifier and two speakers
- Powered by mains or self-contained 2kVA generator (with 30 m of extension cable)
- Four tables and 50 plastic chairs
- Large Esky
- Sporting equipment

Congratulations on your wonderful achievement Ken & Dennis!

## 2010 Canberra Citizen of the Year Award

President Adrienne Moss represented the Club at the 2010 Canberra Citizen of the Year Award ceremony. The 17 Rotary Clubs in Canberra shared the honour of being recognised as the national capital's leading citizen.

Rotary's District Governor Michael Pedler accepted the award on behalf of the Canberra Clubs and their 560 members who collectively take over the award from the 2009 Canberra Citizen of the Year, Bishop Pat Power.

## Guest Speaker – Lisa Ridgeley on Life in Radio

Lee Corrigan introduced Lisa. She was listening to the Mix 106.3 Radio in early December on her way to a business meeting when Lisa came on with a plea for milk so Lee dropped in with the milk. From that visit to the studio Lee invited Lisa to come and talk to the Club. Lisa shares the early morning show (6:00 am - 9:00 am) on Mix 106.3 with Cam.

Lisa said that the two most popular questions that she gets asked are, "How did you get into radio" and, "When do you get up in the morning?" so she based her talk around these questions.

Lisa spoke about the community work they do. Recently they raised \$60k for a humidicrib in 6 hours and \$70k from giggle for Camp Quality. Currently they are raising funds to buy a defibrillator for the South Care Helicopter. The radio station have three main charities they support one of which is the South Care Helicopter..



Hall Rotary Club member Mick Shadwick (left) presented a cheque to Lisa Ridgeley from Mix 106.3 radio station as a donation to the South Care Helicopter defibrillator fund. Lisa recorded the audio of this occasion which she later played on air to kick off the radio appeal.

—Lee Corrigan

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# Wattle Park Uniting Church

How pleasing it was to have the best Easter attendances for over a decade. Our Maundy Thursday and Good Friday congregations were very receptive to the message of God's Grace; and the "Stations of the Cross" service down the main street of Hall had close to 200 people wanting to remember those last hours of Jesus. Hall can be proud of a truly ecumenical gathering of Christians from several denominations who came to be part of that service led by the congregations of St Francis Xavier, St Michael and All Angels, and Wattle Park.

On Easter Sunday more than fifty came to worship and celebrate the Risen Christ. Holidays can be good or bad for church attendance so it was a very warm welcome to many visitors to Canberra who decided to see Wattle Park from the inside at this very special time of year.

Looking ahead, the new road plan for the Barton Highway has been kind to our small community with the duplication leaving our church grounds only slightly modified. We are very grateful for the opportunities given to us to have input to the planning process over the past two years or so.

Finally, a reminder that we have a morning service every Sunday at 10.30 am; so if you sleep in and feel you would like to worship God in a friendly atmosphere: Wattle Park on the Barton Highway is the place for you.

Remember, a perfect church wouldn't have you – try ours!

Many Blessings

—Bernie Rodgers (Pastor)



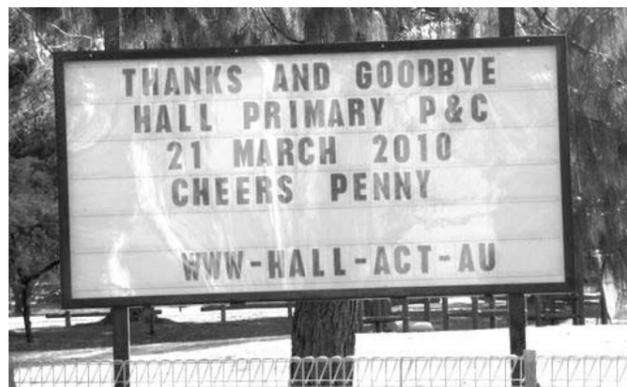
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Our gallant HALL Primary school P and C say farewell. There is more on our website and to follow in future Rural Fringe.



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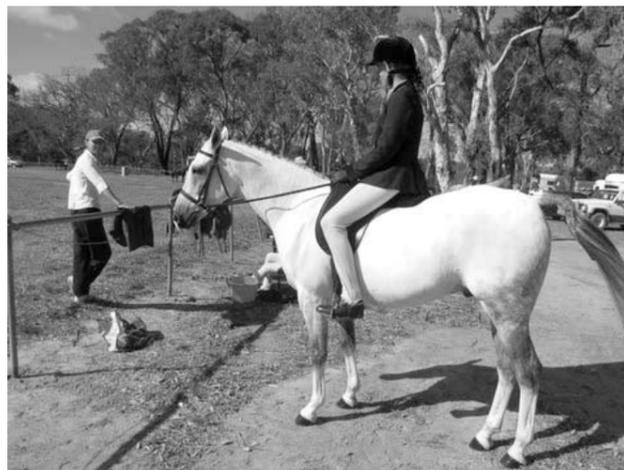
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Rider at the Arabian/Allbreeds foal Show held at Hall Showground Sunday April 18th.

Photo by Bob Richardson

## Biolytix Waste Treatment System

Recycle sewage, greywater, sanitary items and food scraps into a lush garden. By the time the waste filters through the first layer, it is cleaner than septic output. By the second layer it is cleaner than an aerated system. By the third layer, it's winning awards . . . .

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BIOLYTIX®  
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L.E & S.M Cameron "Wyoming" HALL 2618

Winner Winner  
The People's Choice The Judge's Award



Left and below—The Hall Pavillion mid way through the recent refurbishment.

## CLINICAL COUNSELLOR/ THERAPIST

Jennifer Strachan

D.Min, M.A. (Chn Counselling),  
MBTI Accred, Clinical member  
CAPACAR, PACFA reg.



Professional counselling/therapy for individuals, couples & families for:

- \* personal issues
- \* relationship issues
- \* family issues
- \* marriage preparation
- \* marriage enrichment
- \* personality profiling

Jennifer has over 20+ years of experience as a Clinical Counsellor/Therapist, Adult Educator, Chaplain, Pastoral Carer, Clinical Pastoral Counsellor, Mentor & Supervisor.

Jennifer believes in a wholistic approach to counselling addressing emotional, intellectual, physical & spiritual well-being. She believes counselling is about meeting people where they are at & empowering them to be able to make good choices for themselves & move on in their life's journey.

Jennifer can be contacted by  
Phone/Fax on (02) 6230 2570  
OR Mobile 0409 038 850  
OR by Email: strachan3@bigpond.com

Her office is located at  
"Rivendell" 49 Oakey Creek Road,  
Wallaroo via Hall NSW 2618 (off Wallaroo Rd).

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How truly blessed we were to see members of the parish, young & old, and the community in general come along from not only the surrounding areas of Canberra but also as far as Yass, Murrumbateman and Tuggeranong, to our Garden Fete at St Michael and All Angels, which was held on Saturday 26 September 2009.

The weather was very cold and inclement and we thought that we would have to cancel the fete but we put our trust in God's hands and he didn't fail us.

This year we were very fortunate to have the Australian Rugby Choir come to our church and perform. It was a very spiritual and uplifting time as they sang for those who were able to fit inside the church and for those that couldn't it was still a wonderful experience to listen to. Everyone commented how peaceful and calming it was for those sitting outside in the church yard, despite the hustle and bustle of the world going by.

I don't think that even the magpies or cockatoos sang along whilst the choir was performing, which is quite unusual when there are visitors to the church.

Kids of all ages had fun with The Hall Volunteer Rural Fire Brigade who brought out one of their fire trucks to help amuse the children - honking horns, blasting sirens and generally having a good time.

We were very fortunate that Constable Kenny paid us a visit this year. The children were thrilled and the parents seem to enjoy a bit of downtime as they posed to have their photo taken and to have a chat with Constable Kenny.

As usual we had yummy treats to enjoy while listening to the choir perform - sausage sandwiches or a very delicious Devonshire tea, with scones and jam made by the ladies and gentlemen of the parish then you could take advantage of buying something from the stalls set up around the garden.

People had the opportunity to buy pre-loved books or sheet music, delicious, homemade cakes, biscuits and slices, jams and preserves, recycled & revamped clothing, plants or some hand made pottery made by members of the local community.

Our heartfelt thank s go to everyone within the Hall Community and Magnet Mart Belconnen who donated so many items that were used for prizes for the raffles

The Garden Fete gave us the opportunity to enjoy time with members of our local community and each other's company. The funds raised will be used for the ongoing maintenance of the 'historic building and towards the construction of an access ramp.

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**6241 8888**

**Special offer to Rural Fringe readers this month:**  
**FREE** travel to Hall and Murrumbateman areas on Monday mornings upon presentation of this advertisement.

# The Hall Attic

Antiques, Collectables,  
Old Wares, Craft



*The Hall Attic is Canberra's newest Antique shop and stocks an eclectic range of antiques, vintage items and collectables. Come out and browse through The Attic, you never know what you might find.*

*Our stock includes:*

A range of vintage and antique mirrors, Dining suites and sets of chairs, occasional chairs including Grandfather, Grandmother, Library and more. Hall Stands, bookshelves, dressing tables, nests of tables, blanket boxes and much, much more.

A great selection of tobacco tins and Whiskey jugs, Mah-jong sets, a Naval Starglobe and other maritime artifacts and an excellent range of old and interesting books

Magnificent dinner sets (Royal Doulton, Noritake, Crown Ducal), beautiful Cup/Saucer/Plates, cabinet plates including Royal Doulton, Shelley, Minton, Spode, Royal Winton, Westminster, Staffordshire, Sylvac, Royal Worcester and more, brassware, silverware, costume jewellery, excellent crafts by local crafts people



Camp ovens, brass and wooden firewood boxes, fire tools, and guards, sets of Scales, Prints, paintings and frames.

We are always looking to purchase old and interesting items including porcelain, paintings, prints, militaria, nauticalia, silverware, vintage and antique furniture including items in need of restoration.

Note: We also sell on consignment, please call for a quote

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6 Victoria St Hall ACT 2618

tel (02) 6230 9377, mob 0418 162 830

**OPEN WEEKENDS & PUBLIC HOLIDAYS**

**11am - 4pm**

**HALL MARKET DAYS** (first Sunday of the Month)

**9am - 4pm**

# 2010 National Sheep Dog Trials

The National Sheep Dog Championships are a wonderful celebration of rural and regional communities, farming, friends, family, the village of Hall and of course, sheep dogs!

The National Trials began in 1942 to raise money for Legacy. The prestigious event has been attended by a number of Governors-General, the Duke of Gloucester and even Queen Elizabeth II and the Duke of Edinburgh visited the Trials in 1970. It is Australia's premier Trials and is very well regarded throughout the world.



Here are a few pictures from Andrew Purdam of this year's event.

These photographs came from the website - [www.allyeska.com](http://www.allyeska.com).



**DARRALEE QUARRY**



*Darralee Quarry has recently been re-opened.  
It was one of the RTA's main sources  
of road base for many years.*

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# The prize winners...





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**HALL 10**

Hall Rural fire volunteers on stand by  
Friday 19th November, designated  
the highest catastrophic level.  
*photo: Bob Richardson*

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**Tanks cleaned with minimal water loss**  
**Crack repairs**  
**- flexible reinforced membrane**  
**Metal covers supplied and fitted**  
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### Groan material...

A farmer wonders how many sheep he has in his field, so he asks his sheep dog to count.

"So what's the verdict?" the farmer asks when the dog is done.

"Forty."

"Huh?" the farmer says, puzzled. "I only had thirty-eight."

"I know," the dog says, "But I rounded them up."

# National Green Jobs Corp

The National Green Jobs Corps (NGJC) is an Australian Government work experience and training program that offers a combination of environmental work experience, skill development and accredited training for youth aged 17 to 24 years. The program will equip an estimated 10,000 young Australians with the skills to fill employment opportunities in emerging green and climate change-related industries.

NGJC is designed to engage young people who care about the environment and are not currently in employment or training.

National Green Jobs Corps:

provides quality environmental and heritage work experience and training opportunities in structured projects and activities

focuses on the conservation, protection and rejuvenation of Australia's natural environment, and the restoration of cultural heritage;

helps provide the skills to fill employment opportunities in emerging green and climate change-related industries, particularly where there is an urgent need to avoid damage to environmental/heritage assets and improve our readiness for the impact of climate change;

promotes connections between young Australians and the community;

provides personal development, including team work and leadership skills and job preparation skills;

offers skill development and training through activities that are structured and sequential in their learning outcomes;

strengthens connections with the community through



relationships, participation and contribution to the community;

improves career and employment prospects through accredited and on-the-project training; and helps prepare young people for employment.

National Green Jobs Corps projects will run for 26 weeks with participants spending an average of 25 hours per week doing hands-on work experience and accredited training.

National Green Jobs Corps projects will focus on the conservation, protection and rejuvenation of the local environment or cultural heritage. The majority of projects will be team based activities developed in conjunction with local communities and groups to ensure local needs are met. Types of projects that participants will be involved in include:

bush regeneration

beach and dune rehabilitation

wildlife and fish habitat protection

flora, fauna and land surveys and audits

community consultation and surveys relating to the environment

training and hands-on experience in the installation of energy efficiencies (such as insulation for buildings) designed to reduce carbon emissions, and

developing community information and education products.

Each project will provide participants with the opportunity to develop teamwork and leadership skills while preparing for employment opportunities.

Visit the [National Green Jobs Corps website](#) for more information or the [Conservation Volunteers Australia website](#) about opportunities for:

Participants – find out how to join

Partner Agencies - NGJC can help with your project

Job Services Australia providers – find out how to refer a client

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# Platypus in the ACT Region

Australian Platypus Conservancy will be back in town in May for all platypus lovers in our region. If you are curious about what you can do to protect platypus, or just want to learn more about these exquisite and unique creatures, join us at an information session or perhaps see one of these beautiful animals on a dawn walk to spot them.

Learn about all the latest on the research occurring in our region, and have your chance to take part and contribute monitoring data yourself!

Platypus Walks and Talks:

*Platypus on the Queanbeyan River*

Queanbeyan City Council's Environmental Services Division has been having discussions with ACT Waterwatch and the Australian Platypus Conservancy about conserving local platypus and water-rat populations. A Platypus Count program has commenced with public information sessions and a substantial number of volunteers have enrolled from the ACT and surrounding area, including Queanbeyan. Interesting results



Platypuses - a sketch from 1863

are now starting to emerge, outlining some of the trends for the Queanbeyan River. The work has also established that the Queanbeyan River has a fairly sizeable platypus population - compared to, for example, the Yarra River and some other waterways included in the program.

It is thought that there is significant opportunities for Queanbeyan to promote itself as a prime location for observing platypus (and water-rats) and to use platypus as a "flagship" for local biodiversity conservation.

Mr Geoff Williams of the Australian Platypus Conservancy will be coming to Queanbeyan on Friday 21st May. Friday afternoon, at 2pm he will be meeting with QCC, ACT Waterwatch, Molonglo Catchment Group, and others in the Chambers to provide some background information on Platypus and discuss options for conserving them in Queanbeyan.

On the following Saturday morning he will lead a walk along the river looking for the Platypus, with a couple of talks at locations on Lake Burley Griffin and the Murrumbidgee River at Michelago at 2pm on Saturday and Sunday.

When: Friday 21 May, 2pm

Where: Queanbeyan City Council Chambers, 275 Crawford Street, Queanbeyan

Booking essential: RSVP before 17th May to Natasha Abbott, 6298 0268 or [natasha.abbott@qcc.nsw.gov.au](mailto:natasha.abbott@qcc.nsw.gov.au)

*Dawn Platypus Walk*

Led by Mr Geoff Williams of the Australian Platypus Conservancy.

When: Saturday, 22 May, 6.45am

Where: Meet in the Lowe St car-park (that's where The Q - Queanbeyan Performing Arts Centre - is) for the short walk to the Queanbeyan River

*Platypus Talk and Monitoring #1*

When: Saturday, 22 May, from 2pm

Where: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Cultural Centre, Lady Denman Drive

*Platypus Talk and Monitoring #2*

When: Sunday, 23 May, from 2pm

Where: Michelago Community Centre, Michelago, NSW

More information: ACT Waterwatch Facilitator, Tanya Noakes on 6207 2246 or [tanya.rucoskynoakes@act.gov.au](mailto:tanya.rucoskynoakes@act.gov.au)

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# Updated Recycling Tips for 2010



It has been 15 years since ACT residents first received their kerbside recycling bin. During this time packaging and technology has changed or improved.

Even though you may be a diligent recycler are you aware of the way we should be using our bins correctly in the ACT?

The recycling from ACT kerbside bins is brought to the

Materials Recovery Facility (MRF) in Hume. The MRF is purely a sorting plant, designed to sort and bale recycling before sending it on to another venue where it will be turned into something new.

Here are 12 tips to help you with your recycling efforts and to ensure your recycling doesn't end up in landfill.

**1] Leave lids on containers.** The lid is more likely to make its way to the next stage of recycling when it is attached to its container. The lid on its own is often so small that it

gets lost in the sorting process. It doesn't matter if the lid is a different material to the container. (Such as a glass jar with a metal lid.) In the end, they will be all separated and recycled.

**2] No need to rinse or wash your recyclables.**

Water is too precious to be wasting it on cleaning recycling. When the recycling comes to the MRF it gets very dirty, so washing them beforehand is a waste of water and effort. Your recyclables will be sanitised during the various stages of the recycling process. If you are concerned about your bin becoming smelly, wash or rinse recycling at the end of washing up, when you already have a sink full of water.

**3] Leave PET frosted plastic milk bottles unflattened.**

If space allows, please leave these frosted plastic bottles unflattened. Flattened bottles may be identified incorrectly during the sorting process at the MRF and end up going to landfill.

**4] Pizza boxes are now welcome.**

Originally our recycling bins had a divider which resulted in pizza boxes becoming jammed and you would end up with a half emptied recycling bin. The divider has been removed so you can now place pizza boxes in the recycling bin. Don't worry about the grease or left over food stuck to the box, it will all be removed in the recycling process.

**5] Don't fill plastic bags with recycling before placing in the recycling bin.**

The plastic bags (filled with the recyclables) end up in landfill. This is because the plant

is unable to recognise that there is recycling in the bag and due to OH & S regulations, the bag is not allowed to be opened. Alternatively, carry your recycling to the bin in the plastic bag, but empty the contents loosely into the bin. However, remember to dispose of the plastic bag into the rubbish bin, as plastic bags and other soft plastics are not recyclable here.

**6] Remove left over liquid from containers.**

When too much liquid is left in a container it weighs more than the sort machines expect and the container may end up at landfill. Please dispose of any leftover liquid in an appropriate way before putting in your recycling bin.

**7] No electrical leads, rope or hoses.**

As these items are so long they get caught and wrapped around the plant machinery causing stoppages or break downs. If you are sure these items are unusable place them in the rubbish bin.

**8] No electrical goods.**

The plant is not designed to remove such things as toasters and kettles from the stream of recycling and they end up in landfill. Contact Canberra Connect 13 22 81 for information about recycling or reuse options. Only place in your rubbish bin as a last resort.

**9] No clothing, linen or shoes.**

As the plant is not designed to remove any of these from the stream of recycling and they jam the machinery, and end up in landfill. Contact Canberra Connect 13 22 81 for information about recycling or reuse options. Only place in the rubbish bin as a last resort.

**10] Roll aluminium foil in a ball.**

Aluminium foil is a wonderful product to recycle even if it has food stuck to it. Just roll into a ball and place in the recycling bin. If the foil is left flat it may end up with the paper recycling.

**11] We accept recycling containers from the kitchen, bathroom, laundry or garage.**

It doesn't matter where the recycling has come from as long as the container is empty and made from one of the six things that can be recycled in the ACT (aluminium, steel, rigid plastic, cardboard/paper or glass). It doesn't matter if the container once contained hazardous substances such as pool chlorine or garden fertiliser as such containers are sanitised during the recycling process.

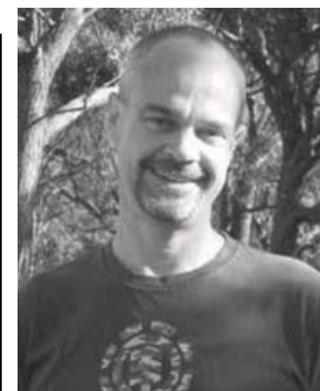
**12] Only hard plastics.**

If the plastic container is hard or rigid in nature it can go into the recycling bin. If the plastic or wrapping is soft and it scrunches easily, like chip packets and plastic bags, it goes into the rubbish bin. In the case of a packet of biscuits, the tray containing the biscuits is recyclable, but the outside wrapper is not.

Do you need an additional recycling bin? If you are running out of space for your recycling, call Canberra Connect 13 22 81. They will arrange an additional bin for a small yearly fee of \$49.90. Alternatively, drop off your extra recycling for free at one of the many Recycling Drop-Off Centres. (Call Canberra Connect for the closest one to you). Or, get to know your neighbour and ask if you can place your overflow into their recycling bin. We hope that these tips help you.

If you have any further questions please call Canberra Connect on 13 22 81.

# Thank You



A Huge THANK YOU to those people that have supported me in raising money for MS Australia. Team 'equalife' is number 5 in the country!! For those that have not yet had a chance there is still time. I am truly passionate about raising as much money as possible for MS, especially this year as the money raised is to be used by MS Australia to develop a special yoga program for

sufferers. I am also honoured to have been asked to participate in the development of this program and can assure you that yoga will make a massive difference in assisting sufferers to combat this disease. So please type this address into your URL box in your web browser—

<http://www.yogaaid.com.au/marcusjanssen> Any amount you can spare will help to make a difference....

Marcus  
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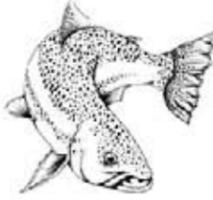
- Two blondes walk into a building... you'd think at least one of them would have seen it.
- I went to buy some camouflage trousers the other day but I couldn't find any.
- I went to the butchers the other day and I bet him 50 quid that he couldn't reach the meat off the top shelf. He said, 'No, the steaks are too high.'
- My friend drowned in a bowl of muesli. A strong currant pulled him in.
- A man came round in hospital after a serious accident. He shouted, 'Doctor, doctor, I can't feel my legs!' The doctor replied, 'I know you can't, I've cut your arms off'.
- I went to a seafood disco last week and pulled a muscle.
- Two Eskimos sitting in a kayak were chilly. They lit a fire in the craft, it sank, proving once and for all that you can't have your kayak and heat it.
- Our ice cream man was found lying on the floor of his van covered with hundreds and thousands. Police say that he topped himself.
- Man goes to the doctor, with a strawberry growing out of his head. Doc says 'I'll give you some cream to put on it.'
- 'Doc I can't stop singing 'The Green, Green Grass of Home.' That sounds like Tom Jones syndrome.' 'Is it common?' 'It's not unusual.'
- A man takes his Rottweiler to the vet. 'My dog is cross-eyed, is there anything you can do for him?' 'Well,' said the vet, 'let's have a look at him' So he picks the dog up and examines his eyes, then he checks his teeth. Finally, he says, 'I'm going to have to put him down.' 'What? Because he's cross-eyed?' 'No, because he's really heavy'
- Two elephants walk off a cliff... boom, boom!
- What do you call a fish with no eyes? A fish.
- So I was getting into my car, and this bloke says to me 'Can you give me a lift?' I said 'Sure, you look great, the world's your oyster, go for it.'
- Apparently, 1 in 5 people in the world are Chinese. There are 5 people in my family, so it must be one of them. It's either my mum or my Dad, or my older brother Colin, or my younger brother Ho-Cha-Chu. But I think it's Colin.
- 'You know, somebody actually complimented me on my driving today. They left a little note on the windscreen. It said, 'Parking Fine.' So that was nice.'
- Ireland's worst air disaster occurred early this morning when a small two-seater Cessna plane crashed into a cemetery. Irish search and rescue workers have recovered 2826 bodies so far and expect that number to climb as digging continues into the night.



**Smokehouse Cafe**

**Situated between Murrumbateman and Hall is a unique rural venue where you can...**

- Spoil your taste buds with the Poachers range of gourmet smoked meat, poultry and vegetables.
- Experience these delicacies with our own Wily Trout Cool Climate Wines.
- Laze on the veranda of the Smokehouse Café and enjoy the sensational combination of the countryside, the food and the wine.
- Bag the magic and take it home from the Poachers Farm Shop.
- Or simply drop by for a tasting.



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Daily

**Contact Details**  
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E sales@poachers.com.au

**Smokehouse Café • Farm Shop • Cellar Door**

## Bob Tingey turns 70

On 4 March 2010 a previous resident of Hall who is still well known by many current residents, Bob Tingey turned 70 years of age. A few days before, his wife Nancy organised a wonderful event to celebrate this monumental occasion which was held in the Botanic Gardens at the foot of Black Mountain in Canberra.

About 70 people attended including many Hall residents such as Alistair & Marjorie Crombie and Tony & Margaret Morris, the latter seen here with Bob.



Nancy arranged a magnificent cake as part of a most salubrious afternoon tea. Bob did a speech after blowing out his candles then Nancy presented him with a printed copy of

his life story... so far! Nancy and Lee Corrigan are now working with Bob to get the rest of the information to continue the work.



Bob was fortunate to have all 3 of his sons present, Alex, (who travelled with his wife, Kim and son, Finn from Queensland) Sam and John (from Byron Bay in northern NSW).

From even further afield came Nancy's brother Bill and his partner Sue. They arrived from England in time for the celebrations. See photo below of all of these people.

Also on display at the event was a photographic slide show with pictures depicting every stage of Bob's life. And on the other screen a silent movie was running which was a record of a young Bob in his twenties travelling with four friends through Morocco back in 1961. Some of their antics were rather amusing to say the least!

Happy birthday Bob from all in Hall Village and the Rural Fringe.

—Lee Corrigan



L-R Nancy, John, Sam, Bill, Sue & Kim  
Foreground is Bob sitting with grandson Finn in his lap and Finn's Dad Alex on the right.

Photo by Lee Corrigan

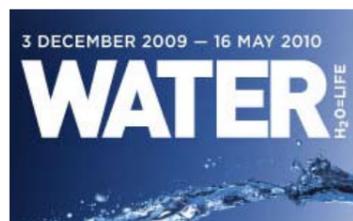
## Bottles from the Basin

Until May 16 the National Museum of Australia is showing a major international exhibition called Water: H2O = Life. This exhibition, developed by the American Museum of Natural History in New York; USA, with contributions from the National Museum of Australia and others, explores the ways in which water has determined and shaped life on this planet. The exhibition also addresses the issues and challenges facing us when it comes to water management. Water management and the environment are perhaps the greatest single issues confronting nations and communities globally.

To coincide with Water: H2O = Life, the National Museum of Australia in partnership with ACT Waterwatch, invited members of communities along the Murray Darling Basin (MDB) to contribute a water sample from their local river, lake, wetlands or other source together with a water analysis and accompanying words and images.

The results of that project are now viewable on the National Museum's web site at [http://www.nma.gov.au/exhibitions/community/bottles\\_from\\_the\\_basin/](http://www.nma.gov.au/exhibitions/community/bottles_from_the_basin/)

120 locations from throughout the MDB have reported their water quality and said something about themselves, their water management work and the issues they face. It makes for a fascinating overview of conditions in the Basin overall.





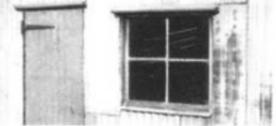
### THE SHEARING SHED

HAIR SALON

Monday to Wednesday	9.00 – 5.30
Thursday	9.00 – 8.00
Friday	9.00 – 5.30
Saturday	8.00 – 1.00

Waxing and Tinting	
Thursday	4.00 – 8.00
Saturday	8.00 – 1.00

Unit 1/2-4  
Victoria Street  
Hall ACT 2618  
**6230 2284**

## Hall Pony Club – Zone 16



Hall Pony Club is part of Zone 16, NSW Pony Club Association. We have 47 riding members ranging from 4 years of age up to Associates. We aren't a large Club but we do great things! For instance, two of our Associate members, Harriet Gruen and Jodie Newall, were both selected at the event first day qualifier to represent NSW in the final 4 member NSW Associate Dressage team at the Nationals with great results!

In addition, we had 9 riders representing Zone 16 across all the age groups at the PCA NSW Dressage Championships and all of the members of the Champion Zone team are members of Hall! We are all very proud.

Dressage isn't the only discipline that our riders excel in! We have been represented at State Equitation and State Showjumping, State Show Riding and State One Day Eventing (ODE) with excellent results.

All of these results show the dedication and hard work of the riders outside of Pony Club. While we give great instruction at Rally Days, the focus is fun and for children to practice and refine their



skills. Rallies are good opportunities for all of the riders to get together, catch up with old friends, meet new ones and for their mounts to do the same! They also provide excellent opportunities for riders and their trusty steeds to learn new skills like mounted games and polocrosse. You are welcome to come and watch the fun on the second Sunday of each month at Hall Showground.

These photos are of some of our stars practising their skills.



Top—Lia Gaspari

Above—Amelia Cox with mum Debbie helping

Left—Takira Gaspari on the paint pony called Daisy



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## Hall Village Brass Band 25th Anniversary Concert

On March 22nd the Hall Village Brass Band gave a super Concert at the school to mark their 25th Anniversary. These photos were taken by Andrew Purdam



# Daddy's Poem

Her hair was up in a pony tail,  
Her favourite dress tied with a bow.  
Today was Daddy's Day at school,  
And she couldn't wait to go.

But her mummy tried to tell her,  
That she probably should stay home.  
Why the kids might not understand,  
If she went to school alone.

But she was not afraid;  
She knew just what to say.  
What to tell her classmates  
Of why he wasn't there today.

But still her mother worried,  
For her to face this day alone.  
And that was why once again,  
She tried to keep her daughter home.

But the little girl went to school  
Eager to tell them all.  
About a dad she never sees,  
A dad who never calls.

There were daddies along the  
back wall  
For everyone to meet.  
Children squirming impatiently,  
Anxious in their seats.

One by one the teacher called  
A student from the class  
To introduce their daddy,  
As seconds slowly passed.

At last the teacher called her name,  
Every child turned to stare.  
Each of them was searching,  
A man who wasn't there.

"Where's her daddy at?"  
She heard a boy call out.  
"She probably doesn't have one,"  
Another student dared to shout.

And from somewhere near the back,  
She heard a daddy say,  
"Looks like another deadbeat dad,  
Too busy to waste his day."

The words did not offend her,  
As she smiled up at her Mum.  
And looked back at her teacher,  
Who told her to go on.

And with hands behind her back,  
Slowly she began to speak.  
And out from the mouth of a child,  
Came words incredibly unique.

"My Daddy couldn't be here,  
Because he lives so far away.  
But I know he wishes he could be,  
Since this is such a special day.

And though you cannot meet him,  
I wanted you to know  
All about my Daddy  
And how much he loves me so.

He loved to tell me stories.  
He taught me to ride my bike.  
He surprised me with pink roses,  
And taught me to fly a kite.

We used to share fudge sundaes,  
And ice cream in a cone.  
And though you cannot see him,  
I'm not sanding here alone.

"Cause my daddy's always with me,  
Even though we are apart.  
I know because he told me,  
He'll forever be in my heart"

With that, her little hand reached up,  
Any lay across her chest.  
Feeling her own heartbeat,  
Beneath her favourite dress.

And from somewhere in the crowd of  
dads,  
Her mother stood in tears.  
Proudly watching her daughter,  
Who was wise beyond her years.  
a

For she stood up for the love  
Of a man not in her life.  
Doing what was best for her,  
Doing what was right.

And when she dropped her hand back  
down,  
Staring straight into the crowd.  
She finished with a voice so soft,  
But its message clear and loud.

"I love my daddy very much,  
He's my shining star.  
And if he could, he'd be here,  
But heaven's just too far.

You see he is a soldier  
And died just this past year.  
When a roadside bomb hit his convoy  
And taught brave men to fear.

But sometimes when I close my eyes,  
It's like he never went away."  
And then she closed her eyes,  
And saw him there that day.

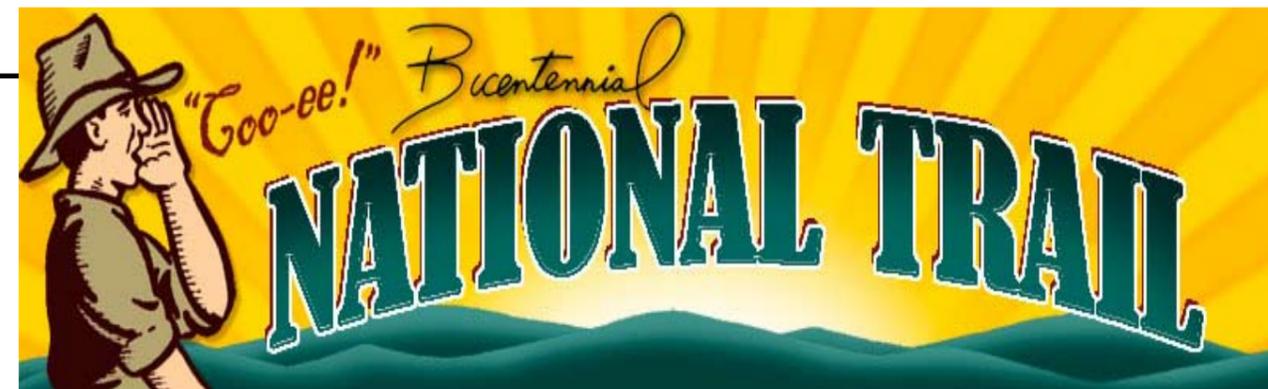
And to her mother's amazement,  
She witnessed with surprise.  
A room full of daddies and children,  
All starting to close their eyes.

Who knows what they saw before them,  
Who knows what they felt inside.  
Perhaps for merely a second,  
They saw him at her side.

"I know you're with me Daddy,"  
To the silence she called out.  
And what happened next made  
believers  
Of those once filled with doubt.

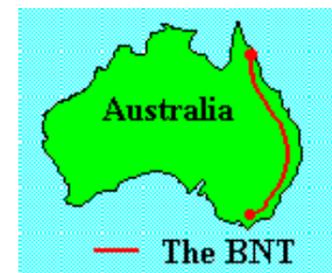
Not one in that room could explain it,  
For each of their eyes had been closed.  
But there on the desk beside her,  
Was a fragrant long-stemmed pink rose.

And a child was blessed, if only for a  
moment,  
By the love of her shining star.  
And given the gift of believing,  
That heaven is never too far.



The Bicentennial National Trail is the longest marked, non-motorised, self-reliant multi-use trekking route in the world, stretching an extraordinary 5,330 kilometres from Cooktown in tropical North Queensland, to Healesville in Victoria.

Following the inspiration of the legendary bushman R. M. Williams, the Australian Trail Horse Riders Association (ATHRA) was formed at a meeting in Gatton in 1972. One of the objectives of this new organisation was to develop a trail that linked up the historic coach and stock routes, old pack horse trails and country roads along the Great Dividing



Range, thus providing an opportunity to legally ride and live the free lifestyle of drovers who once frequented the stock routes. Wherever possible along its great length the Trail has been designed to be a "living history" of our country, following the routes of our early pioneers and highlighting

historic sites and artifacts along the way.

The task of developing this concept was left in the hands of a committee led by RM Williams whose dream a National Horse Trail was. It was RM who initially sponsored Dan Seymour to find a route up the Divide, and to engender enthusiasm for the concept.

The enormity of the proposal, and the need for a national involvement led this small committee to propose that the concept be made a project to celebrate Australia's Bicentenary. The suggestion was accepted, and funding that eventually totalled \$300,000 was made available to research, mark a route, and develop guidebooks. Mike Allen, his wife Carol, Brian Taylor and a fleet of volunteers set about this task.

In three years, and in time for the opening in November 1988, they had established and marked the route and produced guidebooks. The organising committee became incorporated as a separate body. The concept had become reality not only for horse riders but also for bush walkers and mountain bike riders. As a multi-purpose trail it was officially launched as the Bicentennial National Trail.

As it winds virtually the length of the country, the Trail links 18 National Parks, and reveals some of the most spectacular scenery in Australia. It traverses lush tropical rainforests, rugged mountains, valleys and gorges, remote dry plains, alpine meadows, snowfields and wilderness.

The Trail gives access to some of the wildest, most remote country in the world and provides endless fascination for those interested in Australia's unique fauna and flora.

The Trail's enormous potential is being tapped by people involved in all sorts of activities as well as the horse riding and bush walking for which it was initially established. Now camping and fishing, fossicking, canoeing, bird watching, orienteering, survival training, mountain bike riding, and travelling in horse drawn vehicles are just some of the activities being pursued along its great length.

The route of the Bicentennial National Trail lies within four hours' drive of 11 million Australians and its length and variety ensure it can be all things to all people; a wilderness or a weekend ramble, a place for the experienced trekker or the first time adventurer. Age is also no barrier to enjoying the pleasures of the Trail. Everyone, from little children to those of advanced years will find areas perfectly suited to both their fitness level and their interests.

Experienced trekkers will find as many challenges as they care to confront, while the less experienced can choose a section of the Trail which will give them more easy-going adventure.

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## Did you know...

Did you know that the very first Rural Fringe was created back in 1992? I was the first editor but I was not quite able to put the first edition to bed because I had to go to hospital and give birth to my son. That son (see picture of Ross wearing a Green Day shirt on the bottom right hand side of the front cover) is now 18 years old, driving cars, selling telephones and phone plans to corporate customers, playing grid iron (American) football and even has his own ABN! Oh, did I mention he is well over 6 ft tall (that is about 185cm for all you young 'uns) and weighs 133 kg (that's over 20 stone for you old 'uns)? Yes, big boy, and I should know because I feed him!

But is he indicative of how the Rural Fringe has grown over the years too? After all, they were born at the same time.

I also recall that that was the same week that Sammy the green grocer first set up his roadside stall. A couple of weeks later he moved from the Murrumbateman end of Victoria Street to the Canberra end where many of you must remember him.

RIP Sammy. Hope they have good apples where you are.

Speaking of good apples... thanks Gail! Yummo!

And speaking of Gail, Gail Condy is such a gem as she worked tirelessly in doing everything in her power to help get this issue of the Rural Fringe out. Much of the layout and artwork is the fruit of Gail's labour, thanks again Gail.

On the surface it seems that not a lot has changed about life in the village. It is very interesting for me to return to this community. Many people have come and gone and many go but keep coming back (such as me). The community spirit in Hall is as strong as ever and really something to be treasured. Personally I thoroughly enjoy my membership of the Rotary Club of Hall. An excellent bunch of really good people.

Back in 1992 the Hall Progress Association was affectionately dubbed the Hall Anti-Progress Association because it was heavily involved in pressuring the government of the day (Rosemary Follett was the boss then) to maintain the green belt between the ever growing Gungahlin area and the village of Hall. It was so important to preserve the village as a village and not allow it to be swallowed up by 'progress'! Bill Stefaniak (and other politicians) were invited to many a morning tea in Hall to help the cause. Tell me, has much changed?

Back then Penny Jacobs was the President of the Progress Association and the Robson clan, (Phil, Yvonne, Shaun, Andrew, Jacquie and Angie) were very instrumental in helping with the Fringe. Shaun was the one who put the very first edition to bed while I was in labour and the rest of them did much folding and putting rubber bands around the printed copies. I recall Tim Gulliver was organising a lot of the advertising too.

I myself stayed up so very late for many nights in a row each time an edition was due out in that first year so that we did not miss the deadline. I was certainly a LOT younger then!

Mind you, it wasn't all hard work. I remember a wonderful afternoon tasting wines at the relatively new Pankhurst Winery and taking home a couple of yummy bottles as well as a full two page article for the Rural Fringe.

After the first year I moved back to my home town of Perth in Western Australia so I handed the reins of the Fringe over the

Andrew Purdam who did a sterling job for many years after that. I am not sure what happened to it after Andrew, perhaps someone could enlighten me?

So where is Allyson I hear you ask? Allyson Wedrat who worked so long and hard on many many previous issues of this salubrious epistle? Allyson is busy! VERY busy! Wouldn't you be if you had (no less than) three establishments to run and take care of. So make sure you pop in to either the Wood Duck Inn, The Ugly Duckling Restaurant or the Gumnut Cafe sometime soon so you can personally THANK Allyson for all her great efforts for the community of Hall and her major contribution to so many editions of the Rural Fringe.

Hope to see you next issue and thanks for having me back (albeit temporarily).

Regards

Lee Corrigan



Remember me?

*PS I just got home from the Capital Region Farmer's Market where I purchased a bottle of Homeleigh Grove Olive Oil (you know, first farm on the right after the cemetery when you go down Wallaroo Road. My kids think I am nuts because not only am I consuming great quantities of this beautiful extra virgin olive oil on bits of yummy bread (also purchased at the markets) but I keep inhaling its magnificent fragrance as well! Yum yum yum!*

### The Rural Fringe

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